

## **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the instant application is respectfully requested. The present amendment is responsive to the Office Action of September 15, 2006, in which claims 1-30 are presently pending. Of those, claims 1 and 6 have been rejected under §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement in accordance with *In re Hyatt*, 708 F.2d 712, 714-715, 218 USPQ 195, 197 (Fed. Cir. 1983). With regard to the art of record, each of claims 1-30 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0093551 by Taylor, et al. For the following reasons, however, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

As an initial matter, Figure 3 has been corrected to include reference numeral 312 as pointed out by the Examiner on Page 2 of the Office Action. The Applicants respectfully submit that that objection to the drawing has been overcome.

### **Rejections under §112, first paragraph:**

With regard to the rejections of claim 1 and 6 as not being enabling for undue breadth, Applicants respectfully traverse the same for the reason that neither claim 1 nor claims 6 constitute a single means claim as described in MPEP 2164.08 and *In re Hyatt*, supra. As indicted by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, the reason a single means claim is subject to an undue breadth rejection is that a “means for” limitation can be interpreted to cover every conceivable means for achieving the stated purpose, while the specification at most discloses only those means known to the inventor.

However, neither originally filed claim 1 nor originally filed claim 6 actually recite “means for” language therein. Rather, method claim 1 recites a specific way to facilitating a dynamic exchange of semantic and meta-data information: by configuring a simple object access protocol (SOAP) message header to include message meta-data and

semantics. Therefore, the claim language on its face does not cover every conceivable structure/method for achieving the state property. As such, the issues addressed in MPEP 2164.08 and *In re Hyatt*, supra, are inapplicable to claims 1 and 6. The Applicants note the Examiner's use of the term "means/step" in the Office Action, but respectfully submit that a single "step" claim that recites a specific means for achieving a result (even where only one step is recited) does not warrant an undue breadth rejection where the specific step is enabled by the disclosure – as is already acknowledged by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse the §112, first paragraph rejections to claims 1 and 6, and respectfully request that the same be withdrawn.

**Rejections under §102, first paragraph:**

With regard to the each of the §102(b) rejections of claims 1-30, independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 21 have been amended as set forth above to more particularly point out that the SOAP message includes a SOAP message header associated with a SOAP message body, and that the meta-data in the SOAP message header describes at least a portion of the content of the SOAP message body. System claim 21 is also amended to delete the language "the method" as noted by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action. Support for this amendment is found at least in Figure 2 of the drawings, as well as in paragraphs [0019]-[0023] of the specification.

In contrast, a review of the Taylor reference reveals a lack of any teaching or suggestion of a SOAP message in which the meta-data contained in the SOAP message header describes at least a portion of the content of the SOAP message body itself. Rather, the only disclosed use of meta-data in a message is to describe interface relationships between client and server applications. For example, paragraph [0130] of Taylor states in part:

“The invention provides meta-data which enables one or more behavioural characteristics of the client/server interface to be determined prior to the interface being formally established.”

In addition, paragraph [0131] of Taylor states that:

“By ensuring that the descriptive meta-data is provided in a form which is independent of the version of the compiler used to generate it, ***an interface can still be established despite the interfaces having different meta-data descriptions.*** By providing associated features for meta-data semantic elements and by providing the ability for meta-data to be semantically deconstructed, semantic analysis of the meta-data to determine those discernable meta-data elements which are consistent ***between the client interface and the server interface*** is possible. Any consistent elements are assessed to determine whether they are sufficient to ***support an interface*** having a desired behavioural characteristic, for example, stability or a certain level of compatibility.” (Emphasis added)

Still further, the sentence of paragraph [0132] states:

“In the embodiment of the invention shown in FIG. 3, once ***the meta-data exchange has indicated that an interface relationship*** between the client application 10 and the server application 12 would have a desired behavioural characteristic, the relationship between the two applications is initiated.” (Emphasis added)

As will thus be seen, the teachings of the content of the meta-data disclosed in Taylor is limited to client/server interface information, and does not include meta-data concerning SOAP message body content. Therefore, Taylor fails to anticipate any of claims 1, 6, 11 and 21. Consequently, each of claims 1-30 is patentable over the Taylor publication.

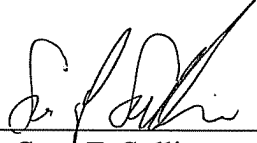
Notwithstanding the above, dependent claims 2 and 7 are also separately patentable over Taylor. As provided therein, an example of SOAP message header meta-data (i.e., XML schema for an <XML> any type message) is recited, which refers to the content of the message body. (See Figure 2 of the drawings). However, in Taylor, the use of XML is presented in paragraph [0133] as one option for a protocol mapping by which the meta-data can be carried. Again, this is different than the claimed content of the meta-data in the message header, which in turn refers to content in the message body. Accordingly, the Applicants also traverse the §102(b) rejections of claims 2 and 7 on this additional basis.

Finally, the Applicants also traverse the §102(b) rejections of claims 5 and 10 for the additional reason that Taylor fails to teach or suggest a SOAP message header including a reference to <any> data included with in the body of the SOAP message. The teachings of paragraphs [0114]-[0127] of Taylor recite various examples of interface parameters described by meta-data, but nothing concerning references to data included in the body of the message itself.

For the above stated reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. No new matter has been entered and no additional fees are believed to be required. However, if any fees are due with respect to this Amendment, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 09-0458 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,  
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